

**California Department of Social Services
Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Capped Allocation Project
Quarterly Progress Report
April 30, 2007**

This report covers the period from January 1, 2007, through March 31, 2007, and provides a project status and updated information on implementation activities for the California Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Capped Allocation Project (CAP), as required and referenced in the federal Waiver Terms and Conditions, Section 5.3.

During this period the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) cross-divisional implementation team has continued to work towards completion of the following core activities: finalize the fiscal systems and claiming procedures, finalize and execute the State/County Memorandum of Understanding agreement, development of State demonstration project authority waivers; obtain approval from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for the federal allocation; final evaluation plan submitted by the evaluator; and the CAP County Plan submission and review process. These in-process activities and additional fiscal tasks and training will be completed during the remaining quarter prior to implementing on July 1, 2007.

The two implementing counties have submitted their County Five Year Plans to their Board of Supervisors for approval. The county strategy for using the flexible funding as outlined in the plans is described below:

Alameda County

To implement the CAP, the Alameda County Social Services Agency and Probation Department will pursue a series of reinvestment strategies in order to allocate financial resources to prevention, early intervention, and long-term support strategies. More specifically, financial resources, through these strategies, will be directed away from expensive congregate care and ineffective services toward services and supports that are engaging, familial, community-based, and cost-effective.

Los Angeles County

Under the CAP, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services and Probation Department will use the financial flexibility allowed by the waiver demonstration to build on current system improvement efforts through strategically investing in structural and programmatic reforms to meet the needs of dependent and delinquent children and their families. County agency efforts will focus on increasing the number, array of services, and use of individualized services, along with an increased focus on community alternatives, case planning, and case-load reduction.

Updated Waiver Demonstration Key Tasks and Timeline

A. General Project Implementation

Tasks/Activities	Deliverables	Timeframe
Establish a support structure and implementation team for the waiver demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CDSS established IV-E Waiver Unit	Completed July 2004

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDSS cross-divisional implementation team • Develop specialized workgroups with areas of responsibilities and tasks 	<p>Completed January 2005</p> <p>Completed April 2006</p>
Provide information to the general public, counties, public/private community partners, and stakeholder groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDSS documents (ACL, ACIN, CFL) • CDSS - CFSD Webpage • Email address established • Conference calls and email communications • Press releases and public speaking presentations • County Forums 	April 2006 and ongoing
Establish Operating Authority for the Waiver Demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of language in budget trailer bill 	Completed June 2006
Develop Cost Development Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish claiming codes for State and counties • Submit Plan to DHHS 	<p>Completed May 2, 2006</p> <p>Completed June 30, 2006</p>
Initial Design and Implementation Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive counties plan proposal summaries • Submit IDI report to DHHS 	<p>Completed July 21, 2006</p> <p>Completed Aug. 11, 2006</p>
State/County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop provisions for State General Fund, opt-out, State waivers, and fiscal claiming • Complete Draft MOU • Issue MOU to counties • Signed and executed MOU 	<p>Completed January 2007</p> <p>Completed January 2007 April 2007 June 2007</p>
Prepare Waivers Under the State Demonstration Project Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify statutes/regulations to be waived from County Plans and any county waiver requests • Complete the formal order of the director • Notification to State Legislature • Publish legal notice 	<p>In progress – May 2007</p> <p>June 2007</p> <p>June 2007</p> <p>June 2007</p>
Implement Waiver Demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verify all implementation activities are complete • Verify counties are fiscally and programmatically set-up to implement projects • Implement by start date of July 1, 2007 	<p>June 2007</p> <p>June 2007</p> <p>July 1, 2007</p>

B. Allocation, Claiming, and Reporting Procedures

Tasks/Activities	Deliverables	Timeframe
Develop Federal and State Allocations for Participating Counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed upon federal allocation DHHS approval for federal allocation Agreed upon proposed State allocation subject to State budget process Release allocation letters to counties 	<p>Completed February 2007</p> <p>In progress - April 2007</p> <p>Completed December 2006</p> <p>June/July 2007</p>
State/County Claiming and Reporting Policy and Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop county claiming and reporting procedures Complete State reconciliation to allocations Quarterly federal reporting 	<p>In progress – June 2007</p> <p>In progress – May 2007</p> <p>In progress – June 2007</p>
Cost Allocation Plan Amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare amendment to Cost Allocation Plan based on the IV-E waiver demonstration Submit amendments to DHHS for approval 	<p>May 2007</p> <p>June 2007</p>

C. County Selection and County Implementation

Tasks/Activities	Deliverables	Timeframe
Solicit County Interest in Waiver Demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue initial ACIN to solicit interested counties Receive Letters of Interest Hold interested counties forum and conference calls 	Completed April 2006
Solicit Letter of Intent from Counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue ACIN providing information and intent submission requirements Receive Letters of Intent by due date 	<p>Completed June 30, 2006</p> <p>Completed July 21, 2006</p>
County Five Year Implementation Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide instructions and technical assistance to intent counties for developing County Five Year Plan Due date for final plan submissions to CDSS Review and approve plans 	<p>Completed August 2006 - March 2007</p> <p>March - April 2007</p> <p>In progress - May 2007</p>
County Training and Technical Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference Calls On-site fiscal training Individual county technical assistance consultation Field site visits 	<p>August 2006 and ongoing</p> <p>June 2007 and ongoing</p> <p>April 2007 and ongoing</p> <p>April 2007 and ongoing</p>

Implementation Start Date	• County-level project implementation begins	July 1, 2007
	• State-level project monitoring begins	July 1, 2007 and ongoing

D. Evaluation

Tasks/Activities	Deliverables	Timeframe
Initial Evaluation Plan	• Plan submitted to DHHS	Completed February 3, 2006
Evaluation Contractor Specifications	• Submit specification for contractor agreement to DHHS for approval	Completed May 30, 2006
Evaluator Contract	• Executed Evaluator Contract	Completed October 23, 2006
Final Evaluation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluator consultation with participating counties • Evaluator to finalize the evaluation plan incorporating the County Five Year Plans • Submit final evaluation plan to DHHS for approval 	<p>December 2006 and ongoing</p> <p>Completed April 20, 2007</p> <p>Prior to May 30, 2007</p>
Initiate County Evaluation Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site Visits to Counties • County TA and Training • Baseline Data Collection • Complete Institutional Review Board Submissions (CHHSA and Sonoma State University) • Monthly State/County Evaluation meetings 	<p>December 2006 and ongoing</p> <p>April - June 2007</p> <p>January - June 2007</p> <p>CHHSA request for exemption approved in April 2007. Submission for SSU by May 2007.</p> <p>December 2006 and ongoing</p>
Observation Data Collection	• Data Collection Begins	July 1, 2007 and ongoing
Interim Evaluation Report	• Submit interim evaluation report 60 days after the 10 th quarter	December 1, 2009
Final Evaluation Report	• Submit final evaluation report six months after project ends	December 30, 2012

E. DHHS Submissions

Tasks/Activities	Deliverables	Timeframe
<u>Quarterly Report Submissions</u>		
IDI Report – 1 st Quarterly Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit IDI Report within 120 days	Completed August 2006
2 nd Quarter Progress Report (Period 8/06 – 9/06)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit quarterly report	Completed October 30, 2006
3 rd Quarterly Progress Report (Period 10/06 – 12/06)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit quarterly report	Completed January 30, 2007
4 th Quarterly Progress Report (Period 1/07 – 3/07)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit quarterly report	Completed April 30, 2007
5 th Quarterly Progress Report (Period 4/07 – 6/07)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit quarterly report	July 30, 2007
Semiannual Progress Report Submissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upon implementation submit reports twice a year	July 2007 - ongoing

Waiver Demonstration Implementation Issues

During this period CDSS addressed significant implementation issues requiring further negotiations with both the ACF and the counties. Beginning in January CDSS engaged in reconciliation discussions with ACF for approval of the federal allocation. ACF had requested disallowances be excluded from the federal allocation. The Department had subsequent discussions and was informed on February 23, 2007, that the Relative Placement disallowances issue was resolved and the State would not be required to offset the federal allocation. On March 6, 2007, ACF informed CDSS that the Emergency Hotlines costs must be removed from the federal base. The final federal base allocation was submitted to ACF in March 2007.

In order for the participating counties to move forward with their Board of Supervisors for approval to submit plans to CDSS the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) language and fiscal provisions has to be finalized. This process required extensive internal discussions and meetings with the counties in order to reach agreement on key issues. The counties have submitted their County Five Year Plans to their Board of Supervisors and the Department will issue the final State/County MOU agreements out to the counties by May 2007.

CDSS has been advised of a major organizational change underway with the evaluation contractor, Sonoma State University (SSU). These administrative changes may require moving the evaluation contract to another California State University campus. The Department is actively working with key SSU and CDSS staff to address these administrative issues. Dr. Charlie Ferguson will remain the Principal Investigator for the evaluation. At this time the evaluation activities are continuing without interruption. CDSS does not anticipate any impact on the current implementation schedule and will keep ACF advised of the progress in resolving the evaluation contract issues.